

IN REPLY REFER TO: LC-4220 WTR-4.03

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION Lower Colorado Regional Office P.O. Box 61470 Boulder City, NV 89006-1470 MAY 1 2 2015

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Youmans Beattie Farms Southwest 3025 NW Firwood Place Corvallis, OR 97330

Mr. Richard Prinster Beattie Farms Southwest 1551 Mammoth Drive O'Fallon, MO 63366

Subject: Verification of 2014 Inadvertent Overrun Payback by Beattie Farms Southwest (Farm)

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Youmans and Mr. Prinster:

Effective January 1, 2004, the Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy (IOPP) established requirements for payback of inadvertent overuse of Colorado River water by users in the Lower Division States. In calendar year 2014, the Farm had a payback obligation of 179 acre-feet (AF) for overruns the Farm incurred in 2011 and 2012. In accordance with the IOPP, Griffin Ranches, Inc., on behalf of the Farm, submitted an IOPP Payback Plan for calendar year 2014 (Payback Plan), describing the extraordinary conservation measure (fallowing) the Farm proposed to implement in 2014 to meet its payback obligation. By letter dated September 21, 2013, the Bureau of Reclamation approved the Farm's Payback Plan.

The Farm submitted a report (IOPP certification report) dated March 20, 2015, certifying the extraordinary conservation measure implemented by the Farm in 2014 and the amount of Colorado River water conserved for purposes of meeting the Farm's 2014 payback obligation. As outlined in the Farm's IOPP certification report, the Farm fallowed 81.99 acres from January through December 2014, and an additional 32.47 acres from July through December 2014. The Farm certified that through implementation of this fallowing it conserved 110 AF of Colorado River water in 2014, and requested that this amount be applied towards the Farm's 2014 payback obligation.

The IOPP requires that Reclamation monitor implementation of the extraordinary conservation measures outlined in approved payback plans. Reclamation conducted quarterly independent field verification inspections in 2014 and analyzed satellite imagery to verify the fallowing implemented by the Farm. The findings of Reclamation's verification analysis are included in the enclosed report, *Beattie Farms Southwest Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy 2014 Verification Report*.

The Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Technical Committee (IOPTC) met on April 16, 2015, to review the Farm's 2014 IOPP certification report and to make a recommendation regarding the adequacy of the report in demonstrating the achieved payback amount. The IOPTC unanimously recommended the Farm be credited with 110 AF of payback for 2014.

Taking into consideration the recommendations provided by the IOPTC members, Reclamation's independent verification, and other information, I verify and make the final determination that the Farm conserved 110 AF of Colorado River water during 2014 as documented in the Farm's 2014 IOPP certification report, and therefore credit the Farm with this amount of payback for 2014. Applying the 110 AF of payback credit reduces the Farm's outstanding overrun balance to 106 AF.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Paul Matuska, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at 702-293-8164 or pmatuska@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D. Regional Director

## Enclosure

cc: Ms. Tanya M. Trujillo
Executive Director
Colorado River Board of
California
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Glendale, CA 91203

Jayne Harkins, P.E. Executive Director Colorado River Commission of Nevada 555 East Washington Avenue, Suite 3100 Las Vegas, NV 89101

Mr. Ray Griffin P.O. Box 1769 Somerton, AZ 85350-1769 (w/o encl to each) Mr. Thomas Buschatzke Director Arizona Department of Water Resources 3550 North Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85012

Mr. John Entsminger General Manager Southern Nevada Water Authority 1001 South Valley View Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89153